



Welcome To 2nd Grade!

2023-2024

Mrs. Dahlheimer - Room 5

Curriculum	Special Events/Activities This Year	Things To Know	SUPER SECOND GRADERS
<p>Students will participate in the following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Religion *Language Arts: Reading, Foundations (Phonics/Spelling), Grammar, Writing *Math *Science/Social Studies *Specialty Classes (see below) 	<p>Responsibility Is Important</p> <p>Second graders will work on becoming more responsible this year. Some examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *coming to school prepared - having necessary items such as agenda book, folder(s), library books when due, completed encouraged work, water bottle, snack... *checking their folder(s) each morning and turning in papers, encouraged work... *completing daily classroom jobs and tasks *communicating needs & taking ownership of mistakes *using their agenda books to write notes, reminders... 	<p>*Students may arrive and go directly to their classroom as early as 7:30 am, but should be in attendance no later than 7:55 am or will be considered tardy.</p> <p>Students should bring a morning snack, full water bottle, their "Daily folder", and Agenda to school each day.</p> <p>Please make sure your child knows their lunch choice for the day (buying, bringing...). We eat lunch from 11:09-11:49.</p> <p>Dismissal is at 3:05 pm. We will exit through the main entrance of the school. If your child's usual dismissal routine differs, please email me as soon as possible or call the office.</p> <p>When absent for illness, vacation..., make-up work will be given upon return unless time permits for prior preparation.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aurora B. 2. Nevelise B. 3. Avery C. 4. Emma C. 5. Noah D. 6. Avery F. 7. Dominic G. 8. Sawyer H. 9. Grayson J. 10. Taylor K. 11. Lydia K. 12. Luca L. 13. Julian M. 14. Gigi P. 15. Brooke P. 16. Gianna R. 17. Elijah R. 18. Evan R. 19. Ashley S. <p>11 girls 8 boys 19 Total</p>

Specialty Classes & Mass

Monday

*Mass

*PE
(wear PE uniform)

*Library/
Makerspace
(return books most
weeks)

Tuesday

*Art

Wednesday

*All School Mass
(unless otherwise noted)

*PE
(wear PE uniform)

*Spanish

Thursday

*Computer

Friday

*Music

Important Classroom Information and Procedures:

Folders:

- Blue “Daily” Folder - Students should bring their Daily Folder home everyday and back to school the next morning. This will be your child’s main folder and used for most things sent between school and home.
- Green “Graded” folder - Graded folders will be sent home at the end of most weeks and will contain papers and assessments your child has completed for a grade. It is encouraged to review with your child any errors that may have been made, to help improve future learning. **Please keep all graded papers at home and return empty folders the next school day or beginning of the following week.**

Agenda Books:

Agenda books are used most days and should also be brought back and forth between school and home everyday. It is not necessary to sign or initial agenda books, however, please check them daily for information your child has written.

Classroom Management:

Students learn responsibility for individual choices as well as how to work together with their classmates.

- To help students stay on track individually a clip chart, that they are able to move up and down on, is used. Each day all students start out on “Ready To Learn” (green). Moving to a “Warning” (yellow) or “STOP” (red) will depend on your child’s behavior and/or choices. Please keep in mind several chances are given before students are clipped down. Students clipped down will also have opportunities to clip back up if improvement is shown. Should your child have a difficult day, I will write a short note in their agenda or send an email with an explanation.

Some examples of consequences may result in an apology note, a portion of recess missed, a discussion with the teacher and/or other students involved, and how improvements and better choices can be made. It is important to understand that everyone makes mistakes at times. Growing and learning from our mistakes is important, along with remembering that each new day is a fresh start.

To help the class stay on track a “pop-it” board is used. “Pop-its and unpops” can be gained or lost throughout the day as students work towards class goals (see below for reward details).

- **Rewards:** Students will have opportunities to receive individual as well as class rewards.

Students on “Ready To Learn” (green) or “Warning” (yellow), with minimal reminders, at the end of the day will receive a colored dot (using a variety of colors) in their agenda book. At the end of the week, students receiving at least three dots, will be able to choose a special sticker to put in their sticker book! Students may also earn special mini erasers for their collection box by displaying positive behavior and making positive choices throughout the day!

As a class, students may earn “pop-its” on our classroom pop-it board. Once a certain number of pop-its are “popped” the class will earn a surprise, before beginning again. This number will go up by five each quarter, starting at 10 and ending at 25 pops.

Birthdays:

Time to celebrate! Students may dress out of uniform for their birthday! Summer birthdays can be celebrated on the student's half birthday and weekend birthdays the Friday before, on most occasions. Please reach out through email to confirm your student's out of uniform day beforehand. There are times that may require a different day to be chosen.

Encouraged Homework:

Homework is encouraged, however, not mandatory. Working on skills at home, in addition to school, is beneficial and can help your child learn good study skills as well as gain a better understanding of the material presented in class. Homework will be sent home on a regular basis most weeks. Please choose what works best for your family and child when deciding how to practice.

- Read for 10 minutes, two or three times a week. Books may be read out loud, independently, and may be repeated. Feel free to choose picture books, chapter books, books from a home library or our school library, or any other books your child enjoys. There will also be times when small paper books (that do not need to be returned), on your child's reading level, will be sent home that your child may choose to read. There will be a short quiz to go with these books, if you are looking for more to do. Reading at home as well as in class will count towards our Pasta House Reading, Writing and Ravioli program (more to follow on this).
- Practice weekly math facts for 10 minutes 2-3 times a week. Practice pages will be sent home at the beginning of most weeks and can be used to practice for the assessments on Wednesdays and Fridays (I do not need these back, they are for home use). Feel free to print additional copies and/or use flashcards as additional ways to practice (see the section on math facts for further explanation).
- Foundations home unit packets (see the section on Foundations Homework under "More On Foundations").

Math Facts:

On Wednesdays and Fridays students will take math fact assessments. **These will not be timed, but should be able to be completed in a timely manner.** The goal is to complete 25 math problems correctly. Once this is achieved, students will move on to the next level. If students need more time to master their individual level, they may continue to practice and retake the assessments. Their work will be sent home to assist in practicing as needed and to allow parents to track their child's growth.

Technology/Log In Codes:

As soon as they are available I will pass on the log in codes for Xtra Math, a program that helps in math fact fluency, that your child may also use as an additional option for skill practice at home.

Stay In The Know!

At the end of most weeks you will receive an email (between Friday and Sunday) with a "Weekly Newsletter" attached, keeping you up to date on learning topics for the upcoming week, "need to know" information, and/or other important notes and reminders.

You can also find information pertaining to school and second grade on my Queen of All Saints website at qasschool.com. Please click "About", "Faculty", "Elementary School", and "Mrs. Dahlheimer-2nd Grade".

Contact Information:

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at dahlheimerk@gasstl.org. Email is the best way to reach me. I check my email as much as possible throughout the day, after school, and sometimes in the evenings. I will do my best to get back to you in a timely manner.

More on Foundations (Phonics/Spelling):

What is Wilson's Foundations?

A researched-based program that uses a systematic and explicit approach to teaching phonics. It will teach specific phonics rules that will help students build a strong foundation for reading.

How is this different from phonics in years past?

Students studied a specific list of spelling words. With Foundations, students will learn specific letter sound rules so that they will be able to sound out any word that follows that phonics pattern. There will not be a list ahead of time, but students will be practicing words throughout the unit during class and homework.

What is a Trick word?

You may know them as sight words, but Foundations calls them "trick words". "Trick words" have a word part or parts that break the rules. For example, does. A common misspelling is d-u-z. Extra practice of writing and talking about what sounds break the rules will help students learn "trick words".

What do the assessments look like?

At the end of each unit there will be an assessment. Students will identify a letter or letters that make a specific sound as well as sound out words that follow the learned rule and then mark the word (What type of syllable? What type of vowel? Any blends or digraphs?). They will also write two trick words as well as write the sentence that will be dictated. Each word in the sentence will be a word they can sound out or should be familiar with.

How can I help my child?

Be open to learning something that may be new to you, too! Assist your child with the homework packet. When your child is reading to you, encourage them to sound out the unknown words. The more you practice together, the more comfortable you will feel with this.

Helpful tips:

- *Refer to the Foundations homework packet (coming home soon)
- *Watch Youtube: "Wilson Foundations Level 2"
- *Read through the parent explanation page at the beginning of each homework packet
- *Ask questions to clarify when unsure

Foundations Encouraged Homework:

A Foundations packet will be given out for each unit and will be part of your second graders' encouraged homework. Practicing alongside your child will help you understand how to help them become a successful reader. I understand that families have busy schedules, so I encourage you to come up with a routine that works for your family and allows your child the opportunity to complete their packet by the due date. If a unit is one week in duration, the student will have one week to complete their packet. If a unit is two weeks (most are), they will have two weeks to complete it. The due date will be written at the top of each homework packet. Student's who turn in their packet, **on the date due**, (packets will not be accepted early as we are still learning the material and home practice can still be taking place) will receive a reward for their hard work and efforts.

There will be an in class assessment the day the homework packet is due (see the paragraph on assessments above).

How else can you help your child have a successful school year?

- ★ Read to your child (this helps your child learn how to read with expression as well as hear how reading with fluency sounds)
- ★ Have your child read to you
- ★ Ask your child about the best part of their day, inviting open discussions and communication
- ★ Play board games & card games
- ★ Encourage your child to practice life skills: shoe tying, opening/closing containers, folding clothes, making a bed, counting change...
- ★ Talk positively about school and classmates (at times these little ears hear more than we think)
- ★ Give time for unstructured play (this helps build creativity and helps with the ability to be confident in expression)

Together we can make this year AMAZING!!!

Mrs. Dahlheimer